

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MEETING, FEBRUARY 28: SACEUR'S COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS  
REPORT AND OTHER BUSINESS

REF: A. STATE 183857, 14 SEP 73

B. STATE 34204

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS ON FEB 28 DPC DISCUSSION OF  
SACEUR'S 1972 COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS REPORT AND LESSONS  
LEARNED FROM ME WAR. RUMSFELD INFORMED DPC OF US WORK  
UNDERWAY ON RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION AND CALLED  
ATTENTION TO US BRIEFING TO INFORMAL EWG SESSION EARLIER  
IN THE DAY. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS STATED THAT REPORT BEFORE DPC, WHICH IS NOT  
OPTIMISTIC, IS ACEUR'S PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF FORCES  
ASSIGNED AND EARMARKED TO ACE AND SERVES AS A TIMELY  
INTRODUCTION TO CONSIDERATION OF NATO FORCE GOALS,  
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1975 TO 80, MC REP (ADM MINTER) DREW ATTENTION TO VIEWS IN  
PARA 10 OF SACEUR'S REPORT AND NOTED CONSISTENCY OF THEME  
WITH MILITARY APPRECIATION OF SITUATION FACING NATO.

2. AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD SUMMARIZED COMMENTS (DRAWN FROM STATE 183857) HE MADE IN SEPTEMBER 1973 WHEN DPC BRIEFLY ADDRESSED SACEUR'S REPORT AND NOTED CHALLENGES FACING NATO'S CONVENTIONAL POSTURE THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER UNDERLINED DURING DECEMBER DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING. RUMSFELD ADDED THAT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE NATO MILITARY CAPABILITIES, US IS STUDYING PROBLEM OF RATIONALIZATION AND ONE OF ITS ELEMENTS, SPECIALIZATION; THAT WORK HAS NOT YET ADVANCED TO A STAGE WHERE IT CAN BE PRESENTED AS A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THE DPC, BUT US IS ANXIOUS TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE WITH ITS NATO ALLIES. HE NOTED EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AT TODAY'S INFORMAL EWG MEETING WHERE EXPERTS FROM WASHINGTON BRIEFED CURRENT STATUS OF US WORK ON RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION (SEE SEPTTEL).

3. LUNS URGED PERMREPS TO STRESS TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION FACING ALLIANCE AS SPELLED OUT IN SACEUR'S REPORT, NOTED REPORT COVERED 1972 AND ADDED HE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF 1973 REPORT IS MORE OPTIMISTIC. ADM MINTER SAID WORK ON SACEUR'S 1973 ASSESSMENT IS WELL UNDERWAY AND LUNS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT DPC ADDRESS 1973 REPORT PRIOR TO JUNE 1974 DPC MINISTERIAL.

4. UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD SAID LESSONS LEARNED FROM MIDDLE EAST WAR MAY BE HELPFUL IN IDENTIFYING AND ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AND LOOKED FORWARD TO DPC SOON RECEIVING MC REPORT ON LESSONS FROM ME WAR. HE HOPED MC REPORT WOULD BE DRAFTED WITH TASK OF DPC/EWG IN MIND I.E. IT SHOULD PROVIDE A BASIS FOR ADVANCING CONTINUING WORK OF EWG ON BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING. ADM MINTER REPORTED MC WAS SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS REPORT AT TODAY'S MC MEETING, BUT TWO LAST MINUTE NATIONAL INPUTS DELAYED CONSIDERATION UNTIL NEXT WEEK. LUNS SAID AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S LETTER OF FEB 22 (SEE STATE 34204) IS ILLUMINATING AND HELPFUL AND ENABLED HIM THIS WEEK TO STRESS LESSONS OF YOM KIPPUR WAR WITH GROUP OF INFLUENTIAL VISITING DANISH AND NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS. RUMSFELD  
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